

U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District Man Found Guilty of Obstruction of Justice for Jury Tampering

--Associate of man on trial tells members of sitting jury outside of courthouse that defendant did not belong in jail--

WASHINGTON - A Superior Court jury has found a 31-year-old District of Columbia man, Antoine E. Rose, guilty of two counts of Obstructing Justice for jury tampering, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced today. Rose, of the 500 block of Edgewood Street, NE, Washington, D.C., was found guilty on April 28, 2010. The Honorable Craig Iscoe presided over the trial. Sentencing is scheduled for June 25, 2010. Under the voluntary guidelines, the defendant is facing a sentencing range of 60 to 108 months in prison.

The evidence at trial established that last summer, Rose attended the criminal jury trial in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of his close associate, Johnnie Gamble. Gamble was charged with eleven offenses, including first degree burglary while armed, three counts of assault with a dangerous weapon (gun), and related weapons offenses. The evidence at the Gamble trial, which took place in August 2009, showed that Gamble had pointed a gun at a number of people inside of an apartment, threatened to kill them, and then fired the gun through the door of that apartment.

During lunch on the second day of that trial, as a number of jurors stood near a hot dog stand located just a block from the D.C. Superior Court courthouse, Rose, the godfather to Gamble's one-year-old baby, came walking past them on the sidewalk, pushing Gamble's baby in a stroller. As Rose walked through the group of jurors, he pointed to the baby, and then stated that the baby belonged to Gamble, and that Gamble belonged with his baby, not in jail. The jury ultimately found Gamble guilty of the charges.

In announcing guilty verdict against Rose, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of D.C. Metropolitan Police Detective Joseph Della-Camera. U.S. Attorney Machen also commended the work of Paralegal Baretta Francis. Finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Emily A. Miller, who indicted and prosecuted the case at trial.

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